



CANTON

Norfolk County



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NARRATIVE

Narrative

The Town of Canton is a primarily residential community conveniently situated 18 miles southwest of Boston. The town enjoys a prime location with easy and direct access to the state's major highways including Routes 128, I-95 and 24, and is served by major commuter and passenger rail. The town has a rich and varied industrial heritage, serving as the location of Paul Revere's copper rolling mills in post-Colonial times, and as the site of rubber, chemical and woollen manufacturing in more recent days. Present commercial and industrial enterprises play a key role in the town's fiscal stability and are considered a major asset of the community. The prime commercial area is well located so as to allow direct highway access without affecting the community's small town charm. Canton provides a high level of municipal services to its residents, including an excellent library, school system and recreation programs. Many of the town's lakes, ponds and wetlands have been protected and preserved for present enjoyment and future generations. Among the protected areas are the Eleanor Cabot Bradley Reservation, an 82 acre estate that blends open fields, woodlands and gardens in the shadow of Great Blue Hill, and Pequitside Farm, a town-owned 38 acre conservation and recreation area which offers hiking, picnicking and cross country skiing. Residents feel that the natural beauty of these areas combined with the numerous town sponsored spring and summer recreation programs make a very special statement of what Canton is like.

(Narrative supplied by community)



GEOGRAPHY

Location

Eastern Massachusetts, bordered by Sharon and Stoughton on the south; Randolph and Milton on the east and northeast; Dedham, Westwood, and Norwood on the west; and Boston on the north. Canton is 11 miles northwest of Brockton and 17 miles south of Boston.

Total Area: 19.58 sq. miles

Land Area: 18.94 sq. miles

Population: 18,530

Density: 978 per sq. mile

Climate

(National Climatic Data Center)

(Blue Hill Station)

Normal temperature in January.....25.3°F

Normal temperature in July.....71.2°F

Normal annual precipitation.....49.0"

U.S.G.S. Topographical Plates

Blue Hills, Norwood

Regional Planning Agency

Metropolitan Area Planning Council

Metropolitan Statistical Area

(1993 Definition)

Boston



GOVERNMENT

Municipal Offices

Main Number: (781) 821-5000

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Form of Government

Board of Selectmen
Executive Secretary
Open Town Meeting

Year Incorporated

As a town: 1797

Registered Voters (Secretary of State 1994)

	Number	%	
Total Registered	13,334		
Democrats	5,236	39.3	%
Republicans	1,744	13.1	%
Other parties	3	0.0	%
Unenrolled Voters	6,351	47.6	%

Legislators

[Senators and Representatives by City and Town](#)



DEMOGRAPHICS

Table DP-1. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000

Geographic Area: Canton town, Norfolk County, Massachusetts

[For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

Subject	Number	Percent	Subject	Number	Percent
Total population.....	20,775	100.0	HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
SEX AND AGE			Total population.....	20,775	100.0
Male.....	9,805	47.2	Hispanic or Latino (of any race).....	296	1.4
Female.....	10,970	52.8	Mexican.....	19	0.1
Under 5 years.....	1,319	6.3	Puerto Rican.....	102	0.5
5 to 9 years.....	1,400	6.7	Cuban.....	22	0.1
10 to 14 years.....	1,389	6.7	Other Hispanic or Latino.....	153	0.7
15 to 19 years.....	1,146	5.5	Not Hispanic or Latino.....	20,479	98.6
20 to 24 years.....	813	3.9	White alone.....	19,025	91.6
25 to 34 years.....	2,629	12.7	RELATIONSHIP		
35 to 44 years.....	3,582	17.2	Total population.....	20,775	100.0
45 to 54 years.....	3,009	14.5	In households.....	20,335	97.9
55 to 59 years.....	1,109	5.3	Householder.....	7,952	38.3
60 to 64 years.....	874	4.2	Spouse.....	4,647	22.4
65 to 74 years.....	1,604	7.7	Child.....	6,410	30.9
75 to 84 years.....	1,273	6.1	Own child under 18 years.....	4,630	22.3
85 years and over.....	628	3.0	Other relatives.....	732	3.5
Median age (years).....	39.8	(X)	Under 18 years.....	180	0.9
18 years and over.....	15,869	76.4	Nonrelatives.....	594	2.9
Male.....	7,300	35.1	Unmarried partner.....	240	1.2
Female.....	8,569	41.2	In group quarters.....	440	2.1
21 years and over.....	15,363	73.9	Institutionalized population.....	427	2.1
62 years and over.....	3,995	19.2	Noninstitutionalized population.....	13	0.1
65 years and over.....	3,505	16.9	HOUSEHOLD BY TYPE		
Male.....	1,334	6.4	Total households.....	7,952	100.0
Female.....	2,171	10.5	Family households (families).....	5,548	69.8
RACE			With own children under 18 years.....	2,455	30.9
One race.....	20,578	99.1	Married-couple family.....	4,647	58.4
White.....	19,220	92.5	With own children under 18 years.....	2,100	26.4
Black or African American.....	598	2.9	Female householder, no husband present.....	710	8.9
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	24	0.1	With own children under 18 years.....	295	3.7
Asian.....	626	3.0	Nonfamily households.....	2,404	30.2
Asian Indian.....	154	0.7	Householder living alone.....	2,022	25.4
Chinese.....	318	1.5	Householder 65 years and over.....	975	12.3
Filipino.....	15	0.1	Households with individuals under 18 years.....	2,586	32.5
Japanese.....	11	0.1	Households with individuals 65 years and over.....	2,352	29.6
Korean.....	54	0.3	Average household size.....	2.56	(X)
Vietnamese.....	43	0.2	Average family size.....	3.12	(X)
Other Asian ¹	31	0.1	HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	5	-	Total housing units.....	8,163	100.0
Native Hawaiian.....	3	-	Occupied housing units.....	7,952	97.4
Guamanian or Chamorro.....	-	-	Vacant housing units.....	211	2.6
Samoa.....	-	-	For seasonal, recreational, or		
Other Pacific Islander ²	2	-	occasional use.....	34	0.4
Some other race.....	105	0.5	Homeowner vacancy rate (percent).....	0.5	(X)
Two or more races.....	197	0.9	Rental vacancy rate (percent).....	1.9	(X)
Race alone or in combination with one			HOUSING TENURE		
or more other races: ³			Occupied housing units.....	7,952	100.0
White.....	19,374	93.3	Owner-occupied housing units.....	5,902	74.2
Black or African American.....	666	3.2	Renter-occupied housing units.....	2,050	25.8
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	67	0.3	Average household size of owner-occupied units.....	2.79	(X)
Asian.....	685	3.3	Average household size of renter-occupied units.....	1.90	(X)
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	11	0.1			
Some other race.....	198	1.0			

- Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.

¹ Other Asian alone, or two or more Asian categories.

² Other Pacific Islander alone, or two or more Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander categories.

³ In combination with one or more of the other races listed. The six numbers may add to more than the total population and the six percentages may add to more than 100 percent because individuals may report more than one race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.



HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

Home Sales (Banker & Tradesman) -

[Town Stats - Free market Statistics](#)

Subsidized Housing Units (DHCD 1998)

[DHCD Subsidized Housing Inventory](#)

Subsidized Housing Units: The number of housing units which count toward the municipality's 10% goal for low- and moderate-income housing. It includes both subsidized affordable units and market rate units in certain eligible subsidized developments.

Public Housing Units (DHCD 1999)

Conventional State: 248

Conventional Federal: 0

Rental Assistance (DHCD 1999)

State (MRVP): 10

Federal (Section 8): 0



TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION AND ACCESS

Canton is situated in the Greater Boston Area, which has excellent rail, air, and highway facilities. State Route 128 and Interstate Route 495 divide the region into inner and outer zones, which are connected by numerous "spokes" providing direct access to the airport, port, and intermodal facilities of Boston.

Major Highways

Principal highways are Interstate Route 95 and State Routes 24 (the Fall River Expressway); 128, the inner belt around Boston; and 138.

Rail

Commuter rail service to Back Bay Station and South Station, Boston from Canton Center (22-30 mins; 209 parking spaces) and Canton Junction (18-26 mins; 781 parking spaces). Amtrak's passenger service between Boston and New York City stops at the Route 128 Station in nearby Westwood. Conrail (contact: 617-783-6222) provides freight rail service in Canton.

Bus

Canton is a member of the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA). Hudson Bus Lines provides fixed route service Monday through Saturday between Canton and the Red Line Station in Mattapan (a district of Boston). Hudson Bus Lines offers service from Canton to Mattapan Station.

Other

Canton is located within 12 miles of the Port of Boston and within 15 miles of Logan International Airport, which provide it with national and international passenger and freight service. The Norwood Memorial Airport, located in the neighboring town of Norwood, is Reliever (RL) facility, i easily accessible. It has 2 asphalt runways 4,001'x150' and 4,007'x150'. Instrument approaches: Non-precision.



CULTURE AND RECREATION

LIBRARIES

[Board of Library Commissioners On-line Library Catalog](#)

MUSEUMS

(American Association of Museums)

Canton Historical Society
1400 Washington Street
(781) 828-3747

RECREATION

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Recreational Facilities (Recreational sites and activities)

[Department of Environmental Management Recreation Section](#)



MISCELLANEOUS

HEALTH FACILITIES

(Dept. of Public Health 1992)

Hospitals

Mass. Hospital School

Long Term Care

Hellenic Nursing Home For The Aged

Hospices

None

Rest Homes

None

UTILITIES

[Telephone Numbers for Public Utilities](#)

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NOTE: The COMMUNITY PROFILE draws information from a diversity of sources. The main source of information is listed under each section. In some instances comments submitted by the municipality were incorporated to correct and/or enhance the information obtained from the main source. However, no changes were made to those data bases which must be consistent throughout the state. DHCD has made efforts to ensure the accuracy of all data in the COMMUNITY PROFILES, but cannot take responsibility for any consequences arising from the use of the information contained in this document.